

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 216524
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 HEW-04 CU-04 SCS-03 /029 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:WNHOWELL:PDW
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER
-----038610 092215Z /64
O 092113Z SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 216524

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL, PINS, CASC, OTRA, SWEL, SY

SUBJECT: CONTACT WITH UCLA ARCHEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION

1. ARN HAS RECEIVED CALL FROM MS. ILENE SWARTZ,
ADMINISTRATIVE ASST. AT UCLA INSTITUTE OF ARCHEOLOGY.
MS SWARTZ SAID SHE AND STAFF HAVE JUST SEEN FITCHETT
ARTICLE ON CHOLERA IN SYRIA AND ARE CONCERNED RE WELFARE
OF INSTITUTE EXPEDITION WHICH ENTERED SYRIA WITHIN LAST
WEEK FOR EXCAVATIONS AT ASHARA ON EUPHRATES, NEAR DEIR
EZZOR.

2. MS. SWARTZ SAID EXPEDITION IS LED BY PROF. GIORGIO
BUCELLATI WHO HAS WORKED SITE FOR LAST SEVERAL YEARS.
ALTHOUGH SHE KNEW BUCCELLATI CONTACTED EMBASSY IN PREVIOUS
YEARS, SHE WAS NOT CERTAIN HE WOULD HAVE MADE CONTACT UPON
HIS RECENT ENTRY INTO COUNTRY AND IS CONCERNED THAT HE MAY
NOT BE FULLY AWARE OF EXTENT OF CHOLERA EPIDEMIC. OF
PARTICULAR CONCERN IS PRESENCE WITH EXPEDITION OF 18 MONTH
OLD CHILD WHO PHYSICIAN AT UCLA BELIEVES SHOULD BE
REMOVED FROM SYRIA IMMEDIATELY.

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3. PLEASE REPORT WHETHER EMBASSY HAS HAD RECENT CONTACT
WITH EXPEDITION AND DISCUSSED CHOLERA DANGER WITH THEM.
REQUEST EMBASSY MAKE FURTHER CONTACT IN ANY CASE THROUGH

MUSEUM AUTHORITIES AT DEIR AZZOR (WHERE THERE IS
TELEPHONE) TO DISCUSS CHOLERA SITUATION WITH RESPONSIBLE
MEMBER OF EXPEDITION AND CONVEY RECOMMENDATION RE INFANT.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT, SLUGGED FOR ARN, OF ANY
CONTACT EMBASSY MAY HAVE ALREADY HAD WITH EXPEDITION AS
WELL AS INDICATION OF MEASURES BUCCELLATI PLANS TO TAKE
IN LIGHT OF CONSULTATIONS BY PHONE WITH EMBASSY. WE HAVE
PROMISED TO LET INSTITUTE KNOW THROUGH SWARTZ RESULTS OF
YOUR CONTACTS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CITIZEN PROTECTION, ARCHEOLOGY, SCIENTIFIC VISITS, CHOLERA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE216524
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WNHOWELL:PDW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770327-0875
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770979/aaaacoxn.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4a040e49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1324103
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTACT WITH UCLA ARCHEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION
TAGS: SCUL, PINS, CASC, OTRA, SWEL, SY
To: DAMASCUS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4a040e49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009